

Sacrificial Giving

Recognizable Offering..... \$6,945.00  
Loose Cash ..... \$580.00  
Total Weekly Offering..... \$7,525.00  
Retirement Fund for Religious ..... \$295.00  
Mass Attendance Dec 16/17                    356

Mass Intentions  


Dec 25-31

**Monday.....St. Peter Parishioners(12:00 p.m.)**  
.....Trey Corbitt(+)(9:00 a.m.)  
Wednesday.....Hank and Maria E. Font(liv)  
Thursday .....All Unborn Children  
Friday .....Samuel Falkenstein(+)  
Saturday .....Teresa Quiñones DeBrasi(+)  
Sunday .....Jean and Gary Jordan(8:00 a.m.)  
.....**St. Peter Parishioners(10:30 a.m.)**

**Faith Formation Holiday Break**  
All religious education programs will start back up again on Sunday, January 7th.

**First Communion Meeting - Jan 7, 2018**  
A Parent Meeting for 2nd grade Sacramental Preparation is scheduled at 9:30 a.m. in the library. Please mark your calendar and bring a copy of your **child's Baptismal certificate. Contact Susie if you** have any questions at dre@stpeter.ptdiocese.org.

**Solemnity of Mary Mother of God**  
Whenever January 1, the solemnity of Mary, Mother of God falls on a Saturday or on a Monday, we are dispensed of the precept to attend Mass for that day.

**Daily Mass Schedule**  
Please note that we will not be offering our regular daily Mass for the first 3 weeks of January 2018. Fr. Paul will be out on a very much deserved vacation. Pray for his safe travels and that his time out will be enjoyable and invigorating.

**Lector refresher sessions**  
A refresher meeting of lectors will be held after Mass at the following times and dates. Please mark your calendar. If you are unable to make any of these times, please contact Mary Pinsoneault at m\_pinsoneault@yahoo.com.  
After 5:00 pm Saturday Mass, January 13th.  
After 8:00 am Sunday Mass, January 14th.  
After 10:30 am Sunday Mass, January 21st

### Weekly Calendar of Events

12/24 4th Sunday of Advent Mass - 9:30 a.m.  
Christmas Eve Mass - 6:00 p.m.  
Midnight Mass - 12:00 a.m.

12/25 Christmas Day Mass - 9:00 a.m.  
Office CLOSED through January 1, 2018

12/26 Bunco - 9:30 a.m.

12/27 Legion of Mary - 8:30 a.m.

12/28 Rosary after morning Mass

1/07 K-5 Faith Formation - 9:15 a.m.  
First Communion Meeting - 9:30 a.m.  
Adult Faith Formation - 9:15 a.m.  
MS/HS Meeting - 6:00 p.m.

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**The Jesse Tree**  
The Jesse Tree is named after Jesse, the father of King David, who was a great king of Israel. God made some important **promises to his family including the promise that God's only son would be born into their family.** During Advent we remember the family of Jesse by placing ornaments on a tree that symbolize some of the most important events in the family tree of Jesse and David.

If you noticed the ornaments on the tree at the right of the altar this week the last four were added and they were:

- \* A Harp - to remind us of King David. God chose David to be the King of His people and Israel because he was pure of heart. David was a great leader and a great musician. David collected many of the songs of praise - the Psalms - the Israelites used to worship God.
- \* A temple surrounded by a crown reminds us of Solomon. **Solomon was David's son. After David died, Solomon became the king.** Solomon had a magnificent temple built for the worship of God. It took more than seven years to build and was lavishly decorated with carved cedar and gold. The temple was a special place for the Israelites because it reminded them that they were the chosen people of God.
- \* A Star - **David's descendants did not follow the laws of God with all their hearts.** So God sent them prophets to call them back to Him. One of the prophets sent by God was Isaiah. Isaiah told the king that a maiden would bear a child who would be named Emmanuel. God also promised him that when this child came to reign there would come a time of peace for the world.
- \* A Nativity - And so it came to pass that in Judea, to the town of David (which is now called Bethlehem) came a man named Joseph and his wife Mary, who was with child.

### Calendar

**Monday**  
January 1  
*Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God*  
Nm 6:22-27  
Gal 4:4-7  
Lk 2:16-21

**Tuesday**  
January 2  
*Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church*  
1 Jn 2:22-28  
Jn 1:19-28

**Wednesday**  
January 3  
*Christmas Weekday*  
1 Jn 2:29-3:6  
Jn 1:29-34

**Thursday**  
January 4  
*St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious*  
1 Jn 3:7-10  
Jn 1:35-42

**Friday**  
January 5  
*St. John Neumann, Bishop*  
1 Jn 3:11-21  
Jn 1:45-51

**Saturday**  
January 6  
*Christmas Weekday*  
1 Jn 5:5-15  
Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 5:25-38 or Lk 5:25, 31-34, 36, 38

**Sunday**  
January 7  
*Epiphany of the Lord*  
Is 60:1-6  
Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6  
Mt 2:1-12

## Dear Padre,

**I worry that I'm cramming too much of my Catholic devotions down my children's throats. Should they have more freedom to choose the faith on their own?**

Many of us can connect our faith to our mothers. It was most likely their constancy, love, and devotion that gave us the first hints that faith is important in one's life. When a woman chooses to be a mother, she commits to handing on to her children that which is most powerful and most profound in her own life. Over the years, the children will take what is given, sift through it, and finally add it in some way to their own personalities. But the gift first has to be given, and the commitment of motherhood is giving that gift.


Mary, the patron of the Church and of mothers around the world, is first represented in the Gospels as the one "who believed" (Luke 1:45). It was this deep capacity for faith that became the well that cradled and fed Jesus.

"Education in the faith by the parents should begin in the child's earliest years. This already happens when family members help one another to grow in faith by the witness of a Christian life in keeping with the Gospel" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 2226).

The sincerity and reverence of a mother's faith can become a fountain of living water that will naturally overflow, and her children can choose to drink of it. Renew your commitment to handing on your faith to your children freely and without limits!

Source: *Dear Padre: Questions Catholics Ask*, © 2003 Liguori Publications, Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org





### A Word From Pope Francis

It is necessary to reaffirm the conviction that every family is the principal setting for the growth of each individual, since it is through the family that human beings become open to life and the natural need for relationships with others. Over and over again we see that family bonds are essential for the stability of relationships in society, for the work of education, and for integral human development, for they are inspired by love, responsible intergenerational solidarity, and mutual trust.

—Address, Food and Agricultural Organization, June 20, 2013





**December 31, 2017**

*The Holy Family (B)*  
Sir 5:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-5  
Col 3:12-21 or Col 3:12-17 or  
Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19  
Lk 2:22-40 or Lk 2:22, 39-40

## Family Peace

Federico Barocci captured the Holy Family escaping to Egypt. Although they are refugees in a dramatic, stressful situation, he chooses to show the delightful communion among them. Mary sits comfortably in the center of the family, busily



Piece: *Rest on the Flight into Egypt*, 1570  
Artist: Federico Fiori (Barocci)  
Location: Vatican Pinacoteca

collecting water. Perhaps she will wash the cherries or the toddler's dirty hands. Her face, full of serenity and joy, is lost in thoughts that go beyond the work of the present. She is the model of so many mothers who, in spite of challenging circumstances, focus their energy on loving their children and creating an oasis of peace.

Saint Joseph stands behind the Madonna and reaches up into the tree to pull off a branch for the child Jesus. His strong arm and hand extend straight down toward the child as they both grasp the wood from opposite ends—one giving and the other receiving. This simple domestic gesture of providing for the son is strongly symbolic of what so many husbands and fathers do on a daily basis. Alongside their wives, they care for their families with hard work.

Jesus is next to Mary, and reaches out to Joseph. He receives love from both parents while returning that love with joy and gratitude.

The Holy Family reflects the divine family. One day the heavenly Father will also extend a piece of fruit—this time the bitter passion and the wood of the cross. Although it costs his human nature, Jesus accepts it, thanks in part to the strength he finds in Mary.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

### *For Reflection*

*Does my family know how to gracefully encounter trying times? What attitudes or actions allowed the Holy Family to have peace amidst the crosses?*

*The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom.*

*(Luke 2:40)*

## Liturgical Roles\*

Weekend of Dec 30/31

5:00 p.m.

Altar Servers: Aidan Murray  
Extraordinary Ministers: Shareen Ketchem, Louise Perreault, Alice Thompson, Joanna Farnum  
Lectors: Angela Zangerle, Ruth Sykes  
Ushers: Cora Podrang, James Johansen, \_\_\_\_\_  
Greeter: Al Perreault  
Sacristan: Joe Davison  
Elijah Cup: Al and Louise Perreault

8:00 a.m.

Altar Servers: Audrey Moore, Emily Moore  
Extraordinary Ministers: Kathy Stockbridge, Bobby Stockbridge, Susan Johansen, Nanette Bell  
Lectors: Kathy Moore, Michael Moore  
Ushers: Dan Cauley, Kathy Cauley, Eden Carter  
Greeter: Cathy McKnight  
Sacristan: Maria Bridges  
Elijah Cup: Paul and Susan Johansen  
No Coffee & Donuts

10:30 a.m.

Altar Servers: Joseph Sweeney, Micayla Colwell, Austin Wise  
Extraordinary Ministers: Luisa Martinez, Katherine Colwell, Teresa McClure, Pam Wall, Melody Grogan  
Lectors: Therese Sweeney, Carolyn Alaniz  
Ushers: Stewart Grogan, Cord Grogan, Brian Prescott  
Greeter: Judy Holzschuh  
Sacristan: Bill Roth  
Elijah Cup: Katherine Colwell  
No Coffee & Donuts

Saint Peter Parish Prayer Chain: For prayer needs, contact Angela Zangerle at (808)295-2587 or email her to [stpeter.prayerchain@gmail.com](mailto:stpeter.prayerchain@gmail.com)

Hospitalized Parishioners: If you or a family member are hospitalized, please call the Parish Office, otherwise we have no way of knowing who in our parish is there.

*In Your Daily Prayers, Please Remember our parishioners who are deployed and:*

Monday Johanna Adam\*, Steve Lange, Carlos López, Brian Williams  
Tuesday Mary Eichler, Hiram Alaniz, Danny Labatte, Mike Kutcher, John Osborn\*  
Wednesday Gordon Pritchard\*, Bette Dellner\*, Barbara Kirschten\*, Aurora Beard  
Thursday Gene and Pam Bauchwitz\*, Connie Jordan, Lucille Kesler, Connie Batten  
Friday Lloyd Biehl\*, Doug Babiak\*, Robert Welniak, Carleen Parker  
Saturday Peter Adam\*, Mary Anyel\*, Harper Spear, Diane Parker  
Sunday Ann Hart, Samara Gillespie, Jennifer Draper, Donnie Simmons\*

\*Indicates our parishioners.

Please call the church office if you or a family member can be removed from this prayer list.

## Liturgical Roles\*

Weekend of Jan 6/7

5:00 p.m.

Altar Servers: Kevin Van Dorn  
Extraordinary Ministers: Anni Labatte, Carrie Gagnon, Mary Van Dorn, Joanna Farnum  
Lectors: Paul Gagnon II, Janice Barnes  
Ushers: Bob Flanagan, Joni Flanagan, Eric Van Dorn  
Greeter: Liz Simmons  
Sacristan: Jean Jordan  
Elijah Cup: Eric and Mary Van Dorn

8:00 a.m.

Altar Servers: Emily Moore, Audrey Moore  
Extraordinary Ministers: Bruce Brandewie, Nancy McCreary, James Johansen, Nancy Brandewie  
Lectors: Sarah Pierce, Tina Henderson  
Ushers: Frank Schorzman, Dan Cauley, Kathy Cauley  
Greeter: Karlene Gentile  
Sacristan: Joe Davison  
Elijah Cup: Tina Henderson  
Coffee & Donuts: Stacie Schorzman

10:30 a.m.

Altar Servers: Killian Casey, Kadi Casey, Gannon Casey  
Extraordinary Ministers: Becky Bittakis, Penny Sweeney, Pat Casey, Stacy Fralic, Barbara Russo  
Lectors: Warren Cabral, Susie Rushlau  
Ushers: Mike Sweeney, Jim Wise, Ray Schlitt  
Greeter: Terri Turnbull  
Sacristan: Mike Brennan  
Elijah Cup: Stacy Fralic  
Coffee & Donuts: Frances and John Bergschneider



# Our Parish COMMUNITY

December 24, 2017

Fourth Sunday of Advent (B)  
2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16  
Rom 16:25-27  
Lk 1:26-38

## Extreme Makeover: Home Edition

King David wants to build God a home! He had first built his own palace and afterward realized that he hadn't built a space for God—a place of worship and family communion.

It is admirable that David wants to give back, but do we have to take care of God or, rather, is it God who cares for us? Obviously, God doesn't need David to build him a house. The whole world is his. Didn't God build up David all along, bringing him to a place where he might consider offering God something in return? It is like children who want to give their parents a gift. First they ask a parent for money or a gift idea. On their own, they cannot give.

God turns the tables on David, saying that God



Piece: *The Annunciation With City by the Sea*, circa 1530  
Artist: Marco Palmezzano  
Location: Vatican Museums

will build David a house—an everlasting lineage to rule over the people.

God will build something much bigger than anything David had ever dreamt of. He will build David a kingdom that will become a nation and give birth to a worldwide universal Church.

In the painting, Mary stands in front of an ornate house. She stands like us, at the entrance, welcoming God's coming. It was her yes that allowed the master builder to enter into our world to begin building this house, which became a Church.

Like Mary, we await Jesus. With her, let us say yes to him, celebrating the one who has established that house where we celebrate today!

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

*For Reflection* God wants to give me more than I ever dreamed of. Is giving myself to him in prayer a way to let him accomplish that dream in me? How can I offer hospitality in my heart, my home, my work and my Church so that others can encounter God's love?

*The LORD also declares to you that the LORD will make a house for you.*  
(2 Samuel 7:11)

## Calendar

### Monday

December 25  
Christmas  
Is 52:7-10  
Heb 1:1-6  
Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

### Tuesday

December 26  
St. Stephen,  
The First Martyr  
Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59  
Mt 10:17-22

### Wednesday

December 27  
St. John,  
Apostle and Evangelist  
1 Jn 1:1-4  
Jn 20:1a, 2-8

### Thursday

December 28  
The Holy Innocents,  
Martyrs  
1 Jn 1:5-2:2  
Mt 2:13-18

### Friday

December 29  
Fifth Day in the  
Octave of Christmas  
1 Jn 2:5-11  
Lk 2:22-35

### Saturday

December 30  
Sixth Day in the  
Octave of Christmas  
1 Jn 2:12-17  
Lk 2:36-40

### Sunday

December 31  
The Holy Family of  
Jesus, Mary and Joseph  
Sir 5:2-6, 12-14 or  
Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-5  
Col 5:12-21 or 5:12-17  
or Heb 11:8, 11-12,  
17-19  
Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

# Dear Padre,

An antiphon in the Christian breviary states, "The angel Gabriel was sent to the Virgin Mary, who was engaged to be married to Joseph" (December 20). Was she married or not when Jesus was conceived?

Much of the confusion is due to what constituted marriage at the time of Jesus.

Mary was betrothed to Joseph when she was found to be pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit. During the usual betrothal period of a year, the woman remained with her family. However, the bond between the couple was already as permanent as marriage. That's why Mary was legally known as Joseph's wife, even though they didn't yet live together or have all the rights belonging to a husband and wife. In fact, the arrangement during betrothal was so binding that it could only be terminated in divorce.

Moreover, in that patriarchal society, a betrothed woman who had sexual relations with anyone other than her husband was accused of adultery. Had Joseph ended this betrothal in disgrace, Mary would have been deprived of marriage for the rest of her life and dependent on her extended family upon her father's death. But Joseph was an upright man who intended to divorce her quietly without publicly stating the reason, in order to spare Mary and her family's reputation. That's when an angel appeared to him in a dream and told him to have no fear about taking Mary as his wife, for the Child was conceived by the Holy Spirit (Matthew 1:20).

Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR,  
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



## A Word From Pope Francis

*[Joseph and Mary in Bethlehem]...were alone, in a strange land, just the three of them. Then, all of a sudden, people began to appear: shepherds, people just like them who had to leave their homes to find better opportunities for their families. Their lives were also affected by harsh weather, but by other kinds of hardship, too. When they heard that Jesus had been born, they went to see him. They became neighbors...they became a family to Mary and Joseph, the family of Jesus. This is what happens when Jesus comes into our lives...Faith brings us closer. It makes us neighbors.*

—Address in Bañado Norte, a slum in Paraguay, July 12, 2015